



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 19, 2006.

Christine Sherwood
Christine Sherwood

Applicant : Lutz Biedermann, et al. Confirmation No. 9870
Application No. : 10/647,096
Filed : August 21, 2003
Title : METHOD FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF A TUBULAR SPACER AND SPACER

Grp./Div. : 3738
Examiner : Alvin J. Stewart

Docket No. : 56731/B884

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH FEE
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97(d) AND 1.17(p)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
June 19, 2006

Commissioner:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and in accordance with the provisions in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure §§ 609 and 707.05(b), enclosed is FORM PTO/SB/08A/B listing a reference that is known to applicant. A copy of the listed reference is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the listed reference be considered in the examination of this application and identified on the list of references cited on the patent issuing for this application. Applicant also requests that an initialed copy of FORM PTO/SB/08A/B be entered in the application file and returned to applicant with the next communication from the Office in accordance with MPEP § 609.

Applicant's undersigned attorney hereby certifies, in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was

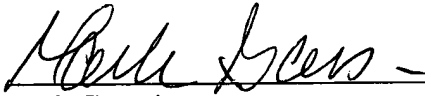
Application No. 10/647,096

first cited in a communication from any foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Enclosed is the processing fee of \$180 as required by 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any Deposit Account transaction. **A copy of this paper is enclosed.**

Respectfully submitted,

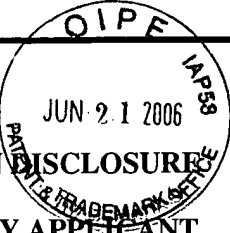
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
Mark Garscia
Reg. No. 31,953
626/795-9900

MEG/cks

Enclosures: Check \$180
Copy of IDS
Form PTO/SB/08A/B, w/reference

CKS PAS687577.1-* -06/19/06 2:33 PM

FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01) Substitute for PTO-1449A/B INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Attorney Docket Number	56731/B884
		Application Number	10/647,096
		Filing Date	August 21, 2003
		Applicant(s)	Lutz Biedermann, et al.
		Group Art Unit	3738
		Examiner Name	Alvin J. Stewart

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T ⁶ (✓)
		DE 28 42 847 A1	04-17-1980	Voorhoeve	✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

CKS PAS687578.1.*-06/19/06 2:37 PM

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.	

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE